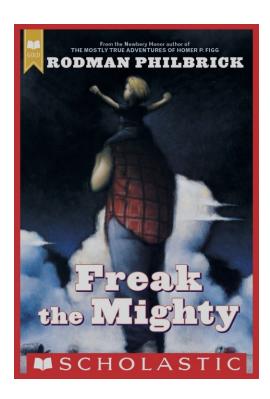


FREAK THE MIGHTY



Young Adult

Book Summary:

Two young men become unlikely friends who end up helping each other out of negative situations illustrating that they are stronger together.

Summary of Concerns:

This book contains violence; references to alcohol use; and references to drug use.

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ISBN: 978-0-545-60027-9







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| | Which is the way he always talked about my father, who had married his dear departed daughter and produced, eek eek, Maxwell. |
| | These big bearded dudes in their sweaty undershirts lugging stuff into the duplex half that's been vacant since last Christmas, when the dope fiend who lived there finally got busted. At first I'm thinking the dope fiend is back, he's out of jail or whatever, and he's moving his stuff back in. |
| | I love the Fourth. It's just that people tend to get all choked up about firecracker holidays, and they don't see what's really going on, which like I say is the dads swilling beer and acting numb, that's the basic formulaThe poison never crossed his lips, he likes to say, even though I've seen a picture of him in the army and that sure looks like a bottle of beer in his hand, and he's got that same wacked-by-a-hammer grin that dudes always get when they're drinking. |
| 30 | He's a couple of feet away, but you can smell the beer on his breath. |
| 63 | "Poor people live there, and dope fiends." |
| 69 | When she comes back in she's got two cans of Bud and she pops them both and gives one to Iggy. "Breakfast of champions," she says. "What a flash, huh? You remember that time old Kenny—" "Shut up, Loretta!" Iggy says, then he chugs the Bud and squashes the can in his fist and he drops it right on the floor. |
| 105 | "I do believe you've been drinking," my father says. "Has she been drinking, Iggy? I thought I made myself clear." "Hey, it's Christmas Eve," Iggy says, and he sounds real nervous. "A little punch, what can it hurt?" "A little punch," Loretta says, and her voice is slurpy. "That's all." "Turned over a new leaf, Preacher Kane turned over a new leaf so there's no booze for anybody on Christmas Eve, even in our own house where a man is his castle." |
| 119 | "There's nothing dumber than a dumb cop," he says. "If they were so smart, they wouldn't be working on Christmas day, would they?" |
| 120 | My father puts his hand on Iggy and shoves him down into the old lady's chair. "Never mind about her. It doesn't matter how the cops got onto you, all that matters is they did. And now what do we do about it?" Iggy is scratching at his beard and he starts to say something and my father says, "Shut up and let me think." Iggy shuts up. Every now and then he sneaks a look at me like he's trying to tell me something with his eyes, but I can't figure out what. After a while my father says, "First thing, get me a firearm. Something small but functional. |
| | Next thing is transportation. I don't care what, as long as it runs. Can you do that for me?" |
| | She still had on the neck brace and you could smell booze on her breath, but what do you expect, a miracle just because she lost her head and acted good for a couple of minutes? |